AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus incorporating no image memory, comprising:

an input device for receiving image data as an input;

transfer means for transferring the image data received by the input device to an image memory of a memory-incorporating apparatus connected to the input device via a [[the]] network;

a key for generating a signal in response to operation by a user;

reception means for receiving the image data stored in the image memory in accordance with the signal; and

a printing device for forming an image with use of the image data received by the reception means.

2.   (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

retrieval means for retrieving the image data in the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus connected to the network.

3.   (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein

the transfer means transfers the image data to the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus retrieved by the retrieval means.

4.   (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 2, further comprising:

a warning device for informing a user that the retrieval means can not identify any memory-incorporating apparatus.

5.   (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 2, further comprising:

transfer instruction means for inputting a data transfer instruction in response to operation by a user, wherein

the retrieval means retrieves the image data in the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus when the data transfer instruction is inputted.

6.   (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the key is displayed on a display device.

7.   (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein the key is displayed when the retrieval means identifies a memory-incorporating apparatus, whereas the key is not displayed when the retrieval means identifies no memory-incorporating apparatus.

8.   (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein the key is displayed on the display device during or after image forming operation by the printing device with use of image data inputted by the input device.

9.   (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus incorporating no image memory, comprising:

a reading device for creating image data by reading an image document;

a buffer for holding the image data created by the reading device;

a printing device for forming a copy of the image document on a sheet of paper based on the image data held in the buffer;

transfer means for transferring the image data stored in the buffer to an image memory of a memory-incorporating apparatus connected to a network via the network;

a key for generating a signal in response to operation by a user;

reception means for receiving the image data stored in the image memory in accordance with the signal; and

control means for controlling the printing device which forms an image with use of the image data received by the reception means.

10.   (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 9, further comprising:

retrieval means for retrieving the image data from the image memory in the memory-incorporating apparatus connected to the network.

11. (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein

the transfer means transfers the image data to the memory-incorporating apparatus retrieved by the retrieval means.

12. (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 10, further comprising:

a warning device for informing a user that the retrieval means can not identify any memory-incorporating apparatus.

13. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 10, further comprising:

transfer instruction means for inputting a data transfer instruction in response to operation by a user, wherein

the retrieval means retrieves the image data from the image memory in the memory-incorporating apparatus when the data transfer instruction is inputted.

14. (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein the key is displayed on a display device.

15. (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein

the key is displayed when the retrieval means identifies a memory-incorporating apparatus, whereas the key is not displayed when the retrieval means identifies no memory-incorporating apparatus.

16.   (Original) The image forming apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein

the key is displayed on a display device during or after image forming operation by the printing device with use of image data inputted by the input device.

17.   (Original) An image forming method for an image forming apparatus incorporating no image memory, comprising the steps of:

receiving image data as an input;

transferring the received image data to an image memory of a memory-incorporating apparatus connected to a network via the network;

generating a signal in response to key operation by a user;

receiving the image data stored in the image memory in accordance with the signal; and

forming an image with use of the received image data.

18.   (Currently Amended) An image forming method for an image forming apparatus incorporating no image memory, comprising the steps of:

creating image data by reading an image document with a reading device;

holding the image data created with the reading device in a buffer;

forming a copy of the image document on a sheet of paper based on the image data stored in the buffer;

transferring the image data held in the buffer ~~memory~~ to an image memory of a memory-incorporating apparatus connected to a network via the network;

generating a signal in response to key operation by a user;

receiving the image data stored in the image memory in accordance with the signal; and

forming an image with use of the received image data.

19.   (Original) An image forming system for connecting a memory-incorporating apparatus incorporating an image memory which can store image data to an image forming apparatus incorporating no image memory via a network, the image forming system comprising:

an input device for receiving image data as an input;

transfer means for transferring the image data received by the input device to the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a key for generating a signal in response to operation by a user;

reception means for receiving the image data stored in the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus in accordance with the signal; and

a printing device for forming an image with use of the image data received by the reception means.

20.   (Previously Presented) An image forming system for connecting a memory-incorporating apparatus incorporating an image memory which can store image data to an image forming apparatus incorporating no image memory via a network, the image forming system comprising:

a reading device for creating image data by reading an image document with a reading device;

a buffer for holding the image data created with the reading device;

a printing device for forming a copy of the image document on a sheet of paper based on the image data held in the buffer;

transfer means for transferring the image data held in the buffer to the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus;

a key for generating a signal in response to operation by a user;

reception means for receiving the image data stored in the image memory of the memory-incorporating apparatus in accordance with the signal; and

control means for controlling the printing device which forms an image with use of the image data received by the reception means.